RELIGION

FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE

COURSE GUIDE

2008-2009

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF RELIGION

FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE

COURSE GUIDE

2008-09

DEPARTMENT OF RELIGION
UNDERGRADUATE COURSE GUIDE
2008-2009

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	Faculty	3
2.	Introduction to the Department	4
3.	Knowledge of Two Major Religious Traditions	4
4.	Departmental Programmes	4
5.	Services Available to Students	8
6.	The Boyd Sinyard Award	8
7.	Concordia Religion Students' Association	8
8.	Course Offerings & Descriptions Summer 2008	9
8.	Course Offerings & Descriptions 2008-09 Fall/Winter	10
9.	Department of Religion 2008-09 Fall/Winter Timetables	27

Office
Room FA-101, 2060 Mackay Street, SGW Campus

Phone Number
Concordia University (514) 848-2424 (ext. 2065 Department of Religion)

Staff
Munit Merid, Assistant to the Chair
ext. 2065, email: merid@alcor.concordia.ca
Tina Montandon, Assistant to the Graduate Programme Directors
ext. 2077, email: tinam@alcor.concordia.ca

Advisor
Donald Boisvert, Assistant Professor, ext. 4153, email: dlb@alcor.concordia.ca
Ira Robinson, Professor, ext. 2074, email: robinso@alcor.concordia.ca
Images on cover page taken from:
http://www.alignmentsonline.com/GraphicRes/crscent1.jpg
www.kcmetro.cc.mo.us/longview/socsci/philosophy/religion/symbols.htm

This course guide has been prepared months in advance of the 2008-2009 academic year and information contained herein is subject to change. Students are advised not to purchase any texts without the approval of the professor concerned.
Due to the renumbering of courses in the Department, students should consult the list of equivalent undergraduate courses in the back of the 2008-2009 undergraduate calendar.

FACULTY

A list of the full-time faculty follows below. All possess degrees from universities and/or schools of advanced studies that represent the best academic centres for the study of religion in North America and India. All have published books that have made a contribution to their particular fields of study, have published in learned journals and given papers at learned societies. They have also won a reputation among their students for being good teachers, concerned about the quality of instruction at Concordia University, as well as for being "available" and committed to the development of a more meaningful student life.

Full-Time Faculty

Chair
Lynda Clarke, Ph.D. (McGill)

Professors
Michel Despland, Ph.D. (Harvard)
Michael Oppenheim, Ph.D. (University of California)
Ira Robinson, Ph.D. (Harvard)
T.S. Rukmani, D.Litt., Ph.D. (Delhi University) - Chair in Hindu Studies

Associate Professors
Richard Foltz, Ph.D. (Harvard)
Norma Joseph, Ph.D. (Concordia)
Leslie Orr, Ph.D. (McGill)
Norman Ravvin, Ph.D. (Univ. of Toronto) – Chair in Quebec & Canadian Jewish Studies

Assistant Professors
Donald Boisvert, Ph.D. (University of Ottawa)
Marc des Jardins, Ph.D. (McGill University)
Naftali Cohn, Ph.D. (University of Pennsylvania)
Carly Daniel-Hughes, Ph.D. (Harvard)
Shaman Hatley, Ph.D. (University of Pennsylvania)

INTRODUCTION TO THE DEPARTMENT

General Objectives

The Department of Religion is dedicated to the academic study of religions and other social and cultural phenomena in so far as they have been influenced or affected by religions. We are interested in the comparative study of many religions. Although we do study how many religious traditions articulate and defend their own self-understandings, we treat these theologies and buddhologies academically and comparatively.

Nature of Religious Studies

The academic study of religion is a multi-disciplinary enterprise. It involves the historical examination of religious movements, the literary analyses of their literatures, philosophical reflections on beliefs and teachings, the social scientific investigations of their rituals, practices, texts, and institutions, the psychological study of their participants and ethical inquiries regarding both their moral writings and social roles.

Correspondingly, the faculty in the department have been trained in a number of academic disciplines including history, sociology, anthropology, literary studies, philosophy, psychology and theology as well as in the study of particular religious traditions.

KNOWLEDGE OF TWO MAJOR RELIGIOUS TRADITIONS

The Department believes that every Major or Honours student in Religion or in Judaic Studies should possess, at time of graduation, a knowledge of at least two major religious traditions. For example, the student who is pursuing a Major in Judaic Studies will take some courses in a religious tradition other than Judaism. This basic principle reinforces the emphasis upon the centrality of the discipline of the History of Religions. A particular religious tradition can best be understood in the context of the general religious history of humankind.

DEPARTMENTAL PROGRAMMES

The Department of Religion offers at the undergraduate level: minors, majors and honours programmes in Religion and in Judaic Studies. The degree requirements for all of these programmes can be found below. We also offer several graduate programmes: an M.A. in the History and Philosophy of Religion, an M.A. in Judaic Studies, and a Ph.D. in Religion. For further information on our graduate programmes, please contact the graduate programme assistant at 848-2424 ext.2077.

Women and Religion

As part of the Department of Religion's undergraduate curriculum, a concentration in **Women and Religion** is offered. A variety of special courses are included in the regular program for the BA major in Religion. Religion majors can focus on this area for either the primary or secondary concentration requirements.

The study of women and religion is a growing field in which the Department of Religion of Concordia University has long been a leader. This structured concentration solidifies our commitment to this field and enables us to prepare students in a systematic and consistent fashion. The concentration furthers the work of the department in that it will allow students to pursue course work from a comparative, cross-cultural and multi-tradition perspective. The study of the role of women in the history and practice of religion introduces our students to an exciting and vital area of study.

Degree Requirements

***60 B.A. Honours in Religion*:**

12 In a language related to thesis; or in a related discipline such as: Anthropology, Classics, English Literature, History, Philosophy, Sociology, Women's Studies.
6 Chosen from RELI 209[3], 210[3], 214[3], 215[3]
21 From area of primary concentration (see areas of concentration below)
6 From area of secondary concentration (see areas of concentration below)
6 RELI elective credits at 300 or 400 level
3 RELI 409[3]
6 RELI 410[6]

42 B.A. Major in Religion

6 Chosen from RELI 209[3], 210[3], 214[3] or 215[3]
21 From area of primary concentration (see areas of concentration below)
6 From area of secondary concentration (see areas of concentration below)
6 RELI elective credits at 300 or 400 level
3 RELI 409[3]

30 Minor in Religion

6 Chosen from RELI 209[3], 210[3], 214[3] or 215[3]
24 RELI elective credits (chosen in consultation with Departmental advisor)

60 B.A. Honours in Judaic Studies

12 Chosen from: HEBR 210[6], HEBR 241[3], HEBR 242[3], RELI 401[3]
Students who demonstrate fluency in Hebrew by a written examination may substitute RELI courses at the 300 and 400 level approved by the departmental adviser.
6 Chosen from RELI 209[3], 210[3], 214[3], 215[3]
3 RELI 220[3]
9 Chosen from RELI 301[3], 326[3], 327[3], 328[3]
9 Chosen from RELI 329[3],336[3],338[3], 339[3], 381[3], 391[3], 392[3], 395[3], 407[3]
6 Chosen from RELI 223[3], 224[3], 225[3], 226[3], 302[3], 316[3], 318[3], 319[3], 320[3], 321[3], 322[3], 323[3], 324[3], 325[3] or other appropriate courses approved by the departmental advisor
3 Chosen from RELI 332[3], 334[3], 335[3] or other appropriate courses approved by the departmental advisor
3 RELI elective credits at the 300 or 400 level
3 RELI 409[3]
6 RELI 410[6]

48 B.A. Major in Judaic Studies

12 Chosen from Hebrew Language: HEBR 210[6], HEBR 241[3], HEBR 242[3], RELI

401[3]

Students who demonstrate fluency in Hebrew by a written examination may substitute RELI courses at the 300 and 400 level approved by the departmental adviser.

6 Chosen from RELI 209[3], 210[3], 214[3], 215[3]

3 RELI 220[3]

9 Chosen from RELI 301[3], 326[3], 327[3], 328[3]

9 Chosen from RELI 329[3], 332[3], 334[3], 335[3], 336[3], 338[3], 339[3] 381[3], 391[3], 392[3], 395[3], 407[3] or other appropriate courses approved by the departmental advisor

6 Chosen from RELI 223[3], 224[3], 225[3], 226[3], 302[3], 316[3], 318[3], 319[3], 320[3], 321[3], 322[3], 323[3], 324[3], 325[3] or other appropriate courses approved by the departmental advisor

3 RELI 409[3]

30 Minor in Judaic Studies

6 Chosen from RELI 209[3], 210[3], 214[3a], 215[3]

3 RELI 220[3]

6 Chosen from RELI 301[3], 326[3], 327[3], 328[3]

6 Chosen from RELI 329[3], 332[3], 334[3], 335[3], 336[3], 338[3], 339[3], 381[3], 391[3], 392[3], 395[3], 407[3] or other appropriate courses approved by the departmental advisor

9 RELI elective credits at the 300 or 400 level

24 Minor in Iranian Studies

3 RELI 318[3]

3 Chosen from ANTH 323[3] or ANTH credits dealing with the peoples and cultures of Iran or Persia and approved by the departmental advisor

3 Chosen from CLAS 230[3] or HIST 219[3]; HIST 240[3], 241[3], 467[3], POLI 391[3], 395[3]

3 Chosen from RELI 224[3], 316[3], 317[3], 319[3], 383[3], 411[3]

6 Chosen from RELI 412[3], 414[3] or RELI courses dealing with the religions of Iran or Persia

6 Credits chosen from any courses dealing primarily with Iran or the Eurasian regions historically influenced by Iranian and Persian culture and approved by the departmental advisor

NOTE: Any of the courses above may be substituted by an appropriate course approved by the departmental advisor.

Areas of Concentration

A - Asian Religions (21 credits) - chosen from any of the following:

RELI 224[3] Introduction to Islam,
RELI 225[3] Introduction to Hinduism
RELI 226[3] Introduction to Buddhism
RELI 316[3] Medieval Islam
RELI 318[3] Shiite Islam
RELI 319[3] Modern Islam
RELI 340[3] Veda & Upanishads: Fountainhead of Hindu Thought
RELI 341[3] Hindu Sadhana: From Yajna to Yoga
RELI 342[3] The Golden Age of Bhakti
RELI 346[3] From Rammohun Roy to Gandhi and After
RELI 347[3] Religion and the Arts in South & Southeast Asia
RELI 348[3] Religion and Society in South & Southeast Asia
RELI 349[3] Religions of China and Japan
RELI 350[3] Theravada Buddhism

RELI 364[3] Mahayana Buddhism
RELI 383[3] Women and Religion: Islam
RELI 384[3] Women and Religion: Hinduism
RELI 385[3] Women and Religion: Buddhism
RELI 411[3] Studies in Qur'an and Hadith or other appropriate courses approved by the departmental advisor

B - Christianity (21 credits)

3 RELI 223[3] Introduction to Christianity

12 Chosen from RELI 301[3] Biblical Studies I: The Hebrew Bible, RELI 302[3] Biblical Studies II: Christian Origins, RELI 320[3] Catacombs, Crusades and Convents: History of Christianity I, RELI 321[3] Mystics, Heretics and Reformers: History of Christianity II, RELI 322[3] From Toleration to Political and Social Activism: History of Christianity III or other appropriate courses approved by the departmental advisor

6 Christianity elective credits at the 300 or 400 level

C - Judaism (21 credits)

3 RELI 220[3] Introduction to Judaism

3 RELI 301[3] Biblical Studies I: The Hebrew Bible

6 Chosen from: RELI 326[3] Ancient Judaism, RELI 327[3] Medieval Jewish Thought & Institutions, RELI 328[3] Modern Judaism or other appropriate courses approved by the departmental advisor

9 Judaic Studies elective credits at the 300 or 400 level

D - Women and Religion (21 credits)

3 RELI 233[3] Introduction to Women and Religion

6 Chosen from: RELI 381[3] Women and Religion: Judaism
RELI 382[3] Women and Religion: Christianity
RELI 383[3] Women and Religion: Islam
RELI 384[3] Women and Religion: Hinduism
RELI 385[3] Women and Religion: Buddhism
RELI 391[3] Women and Jewish History: Ancient & Medieval
RELI 392[3] Women and Jewish History: Modern or other appropriate courses approved by the departmental advisor

9 Chosen from: RELI 372[3] The Human Body in Religious Faith and Practice
RELI 380[3] Sexuality in the History of Religion
RELI 387[3] Goddesses and Religious Images of Women
RELI 389[3] Women's Ritual: Expressions and Expertise
RELI 406[3] Feminist Hermeneutics & Scripture
or other appropriate courses approved by the departmental advisor

3 Women and Religion elective credits at the 300 or 400 level

E – Islam (21 credits)

6 Chosen from: RELI 224[3], 316[3], 319[3]

12 Chosen from: RELI 314[3], 315[3], 317[3], 318[3], 348[3], 383[3], 412[3]: from 316 or 319 if not taken to satisfy requirements in first category; from 411 or 416 if not taken to satisfy requirements in third category: or other appropriate courses approved by the departmental advisor

3 Chosen from RELI 411 or 416; or other appropriate courses approved by the departmental advisor

NOTE: Majors in Religion concentrating in Islam may count up to six credits of

Arabic toward the Islam concentration. Honours students concentrating in Islam must take at least nine credits of Arabic, to be counted in the 12-credit "language related to thesis" category of the Honours program. Honours students may also count an additional six credits of Arabic toward their program.

NOTE: Students who demonstrate fluency in Arabic by a written examination may substitute RELI courses at the 300 and 400 level approved by the departmental advisor.

Southern Asia Studies

The Department of Religion participates with History, Political Science and several other departments in the Southern Asia Studies Programme which offers a major and a minor as follows:

MAJOR (42 credits)

6 credits History 261 and Religion 215
3 credits History 364, 365, 393 or 462
6 credits Political Science 336, 424, 482
9 credits Religion 224, 225, 226, 318, 340, 341, 342, 346, 347, 348, 350, 384

NOTE: Any of the above courses may be substituted by a Special Topics course on Southern Asia in the same Department and approved by the departmental advisor.

18 credits Chosen from any relevant courses in the core disciplines, including Special Topics courses (not already counted towards the above requirements) or courses dealing with Southern Asia in the Departments of Economics, Education, English, Geography, Sociology/Anthropology, The Faculty of Fine Arts, and the John Molson School of Business.

MINOR (30 credits)

6 credits History 261 and Religion 215
6 credits History 364, 365, 393 or 462
Political Science 336, 424, 482
Economics 311, 319
9 credits any from Religion 224, 225, 226, 318, 340, 341, 342, 346, 347, 348, 350, 384; or FMST 335

NOTE: Any of the courses above may be substituted by an appropriate course on Southern Asia approved by the departmental advisor.

9 elective credits from any courses dealing primarily with Southern Asia, and Special Topics courses in any discipline with a Southern Asia theme or focus. Other courses may be substituted for many of the above with the Programme Advisor's permission.

Please see the Undergraduate Calendar for further details on the Southern Asia Studies Programme.

For more information, contact:
Dr. Donald Boisvert: dlb@alcor.concordia.ca or Dr. Ira Robinson:

robinso@alcor.concordia.ca

SERVICES AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS

Student Advising
Students who have questions concerning their programme of study or need assistance relating to academic difficulties can contact the Department either by phone (848-2424, ext. 2065) or email religion@alcor.concordia.ca and make an appointment to meet with an undergraduate advisor.

Undergraduate Listserve
Religion students and students taking one or more Religion courses have the option of being added to the Religion Undergraduate Listserve. This listserve helps to keep students informed of upcoming events, guest speakers and academic deadlines.

Department Web Page
Visit the Department's webpage and find information on the various courses offered, course outlines, faculty research interests, guest lectures and conferences, information on our graduate programmes plus much more:
http://artsandscience.concordia.ca/religion/reli.html

THE BOYD SINYARD AWARD

Each year the Boyd Sinyard award is given to the outstanding graduating student in Religion. The award is named after the first chairman of the Department of Religion at Sir George Williams University.

CONCORDIA RELIGION STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION (CRSA)

If you are studying within the Department of Religion (i.e. if you are an Honours, Major, Minor or just taking a course offered by the department), you are a member of the CRSA. CRSA is a student-administered organization dedicated to fostering community and expanding the educational experience of all Religion students. Each year the executive branch of CRSA (five students elected to plan and administer CRSA affairs) offers Religion students the chance to meet each other and faculty at various social gatherings, as well as the opportunity to enliven their education by attending CRSA sponsored lectures given by learned academics and religious thinkers from all parts of the world. CRSA members are urged to take advantage of the student lounge located in the basement of annex R (2050 Mackay). This is a place where students can study, hang out or use the free phone. If you would like more information about CRSA, leave a message in our mailbox at the Department of Religion.

SUMMER COURSES 2008

Term: April 30 – June 16

RELI 214/1 – A (3 credits) M.W. 09:30-12:00
RELIGIONS OF THE WEST
Instructor: TBA

This course surveys the history, doctrines, institutions, and practices of religions that arose in Western Asia, including Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. The course examines contemporary forms of religious life in those parts of the world where these traditions have spread, as well as indigenous religions. The course explores the religious activities and experiences of both women and men within these various traditions. **Note**: Students who have received credit for RELI 213 or RELZ 214 may not take this course for credit.

RELI 216/1 – EC (3 credits) (term dates: 30 April – August 12)
ENCOUNTERING WORLD RELIGIONS
Instructor: Howard Joseph

This course serves as an introduction to some of the religions of today's world, and explores several contemporary contexts where people of diverse religious backgrounds come into contact with one another. **Note:** Students who have received credit for RELI 298C or RELZ 216 may not take this course for credit.

RELI 218/1 – A (3 credits) T.J. 15:30-18:00
WISDOM, TRADITION & ENLIGHTENMENT
Instructor: TBA

Most of the world's religions have formulated a set of teachings which convey an idea of the fundamental realities of the nature of the universe, and of the path by which humankind can come to a realization of these realities. Such a realization is frequently equated with the ultimate goal of enlightenment as liberation, or knowledge of/union with the transcendent. This course will explore several of the religious traditions which have developed texts and practices leading to wisdom. **Note:** Students who have received credit for RELZ 218 or RELI/RELZ 298E may not take this course for credit

RELI 375/1 – Onl EC (3 credits) (term dates: June 25 – August 12)
RELIGION IN CANADA
Instructor: Donald Boisvert

This course examines the history, contributions and sociological profile of different religious traditions within Canadian society. In particular, the influence of these traditions on Canadian politics, law and culture is considered, as well as the challenges a number of them faced in coming to Canada. Attention is also paid to the interaction of different religious groups within the broader Canadian context.
Note: Students who have received credit for RELI 363 may not take this course for credit.

RELI 378/1 - A (3 credits) M.W. 1430-1700
DEATH AND DYING
Instructor: TBA

This course provides a comparative perspective on the variety of conceptions and practices related to death and dying that are found in different world religions. In addition, the course considers how people in contemporary North American society utilise traditional religious concepts and rituals, scientific understandings and medical procedures, or innovative combinations of ideas and practices to cope with, and make sense of, the problem of death. Lectures, discussions and some small group work will constitute the major teaching methods. Guest lecturers will be invited. Students should complete the course with some general understanding of, and critical appreciation for, the ways in which different religious traditions explain death and its attendant issues, and how these might assist individuals in coping with their own death or that of others.

RELI 498I/1 – A (3 credits) T.J. 16:00-18:30
FEMINIST JEWISH PHILOSOPHY
(xlisted with 698I)
Instructor: Michael Oppenheim
Prerequisite: Permission of the Department

This course will explore contemporary writings by feminist Jewish philosophers who seek to analyze, critique, and reconstruct Jewish life and Jewish texts through philosophy. It will begin by examining the converging currents of modern Jewish philosophy and feminist philosophy which provide a context for their work. Among the philosophers to be examined are: Rachel Adler, Judith Plaskow, Hava Tirosh-Samuelson, and Susan Shapiro. We will investigate and engage these theorists, among others, in their efforts toward reading and repairing sacred texts, retrieving the voice of women in Jewish history, expanding the power of women within contemporary Jewish communities, and engendering Jewish women's religious lives.
This is a seminar-format course in which both upper-level undergraduate and graduate students will be participating.

RELI 498O/1 – AA (3 credits) M.W. 18:00-20:30
APOCALYPTISIM AND GNOSIS
(xlisted with 629Z)
Instructor:
Prerequisite: Permission of the Department

This course will be divided into three parts. The first part will be a study of the development of the concepts of the messianism, apocalypticism and eschatology as they are understood in selected texts from the Hebrew Scriptures (with a special focus on the prophets of the Exile), the Apocrypha, the Pseudepigrapha, and the Dead Sea Scrolls. We will then explore the development of wisdom/logos/gnosis in a selection of Wisdom texts from Hebrew Scriptures, Philo, the Dead Sea Scrolls and the Gnostic texts of Nag Hammadi and how the development of this concept is related to the concepts of Messiah
and apocalypticism.

COURSES
FALL AND WINTER 2008-2009
(/2 = Fall 2008 /4 = Winter 2009)

6 **RELI 209/4 - A** (3 credits) H521 T.J. 1145-1300
THE RELIGIOUS IMAGINATION Michelle B. (TA)
Instructor: Marc L.

This course explores the conceptual elements that underlie the religious experience. These elements include the notion of the sacred, beliefs, cosmologies and myths, the origins and understanding of evil, ethics and salvation. **Note**: Students who have received credit for RELI 211 may not take this course for credit.

7 **RELI 210/2 – A** (3 credits) H 633 M.W. 1145-1300
RELIGION IN PRACTICE Asleigh D. (TA)
Instructor: Sonia

This course focuses on the day-to-day practice of religious traditions. Included are the expression of religious experiences through art, music, and scripture; transmission of these religious expressions through ritual, worship and mystical/ecstatic practices; and the construction and maintenance of different types of religious authority and communal identities. **Note**: Students who have received credit for RELI 211 may not take this course for credit.

8 **RELI 214/2 - A** (3 credits) H 507 M.W. 1015-1130
RELIGIONS OF THE WEST Eliza (TA)
Instructor: Andrea Lobel

This course surveys the history, doctrines, institutions, and practices of religions that arose in Western Asia, including Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. The course examines contemporary forms of religious life in those parts of the world where these traditions have spread, as well as indigenous religions. The course explores the religious activities and experiences of both women and men within these various traditions. **Note**: Students who have received credit for RELI 213 or RELZ 214 may not take this course for credit.

9 **RELI 215/4 – A** (3 credits) GN-M100 T.J. 1445-1600
RELIGIONS OF ASIA Deborah G. (TA)
Instructor: Brandon

This course surveys the history, doctrines, institutions, and practices of religions that have arisen in and spread throughout Asia, including Hinduism, Buddhism, and the religions of China and Japan. The course explores the religious activities and experiences of both women and men within these traditions. **Note**: Students who have received credit for RELI 213 or RELZ 215 may not take this course for credit.

RELI 216/2 – Onl EC (3 credits) and **RELI 216/4 – Onl EC** (3 credits)
ENCOUNTERING WORLD RELIGIONS
Instructor: Howard Joseph

This course serves as an introduction to some of the religions of today's world, and explores several contemporary contexts where people of diverse religious backgrounds come into contact with one another. **Note:** Students who have received credit for RELI 298C or RELZ 216 may not take this course for credit.

RELI 220/2- A (3 credits) H 620 H 521 T.J. 1315-1430
INTRODUCTION TO JUDAISM David O. (TA)
Instructor: Ira Robinson

This course will examine the history of Jews and of Judaism from ancient times until the present. It will emphasize the continuities, changes and interrelationships with respect to Jewish social, religious and intellectual life through the ages. It will also carefully examine the varieties of belief and practice in contemporary Jewish life. **Note:** Students who have received credit for RELI 222 may not take this course for credit.

RELI 223/2 - A (3 credits) ~~LS-420~~ H-439 J. 1315-1600
INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIANITY Cathy H (TA)
Instructor: Donald Boisvert

This course provides an introduction to key developments and enduring structures in the historical evolution of Christianity. It examines the variety of expressions of faith that are embodied by the Eastern churches (e.g. Greek and Russian Orthodox, Syrian) and the Western (e.g. Roman Catholic, Protestant), and traces the ways in which institutions, symbols, and rituals have in the past and continue today to carry forward the Christian tradition as a world religion in a variety of cultural contexts.

RELI 224/2 – A (3 credits) LS H 420 T.J.1145-1300
INTRODUCTION TO ISLAM Camille (TA)
Instructor: Richard Foltz

This course explores the religious tradition of Islam through the beliefs and practices of the vast number of Muslims scattered throughout the world — in the Middle East, Indonesia, India and Pakistan, North America, and other places. It examines the scriptures and common rituals or "pillars" of the religion, as well as expressions of life and culture in the past and present such as the law (shariah), the Islamic arts, and the mystical orders. The course also provides a historical framework of the classical period of Islam up to the Abbasid empire (eighth century). **Note:** Students who have received credit for RELI 313 may not take this course for credit.

RELI 225/2 – A (3 credits) FG B060 T.J. 1615-1730
INTRODUCTION TO HINDUISM Michael G. (TA)
Instructor: Shaman Hatley

This course surveys Hinduism in its diverse history, sects, schools of thought, sacred texts, spiritual practices, and contemporary movements. We will focus on several prominent dimensions of the Hindu tradition, including the sacrificial cult of the ancient Veda, the sublime mysticism of the *Upanisads*, karma and rebirth, the metaphysics of the Vedanta,

devotion to Krishna, gender and caste, and the Hindu temple. **Note**: Students who have received credit for this topic under a RELI 298 number may not take this course for credit.

14 **RELI 226/2 – A** (3 credits) BE 243 T.J.1015-1130
INTRODUCTION TO BUDDHISM Howard G (TA)
Instructor: Marc des Jardins

This course introduces students to the diversity of forms of Buddhism that have emerged in history and are practiced today. It examines those aspects that are shared in common by Buddhists all over the world, including reverence for the Buddha, support of the monastic order, and adherence to the Buddha's teachings. The course explores the ways in which these ideals and beliefs are expressed through such Buddhist practices as worship, study, pilgrimage, and meditation. **Note:** Students who have received credit for RELI 350 or 364 may not take this course for credit.

15 **RELI 300/4 - AA** (3 credits) H411 M. 1800-2015
CULTS AND RELIGIOUS CONTROVERSY IN NORTH AMERICA James Q (TA)
Instructor: Susan

This course takes a sociological and historical approach towards understanding new religious movements (NRMs), popularly known as "cults". The course examines the reasons for their controversial status in society, and undertakes a survey of the beliefs, rituals, leadership, membership, recruitment strategies, and social organization of a number of specific NRMs. **Note:** Students who have received credit for this topic under a RELI 298 number or RELI 217 may not take this course for credit.

16 **RELI 301/2 - A** (3 credits) H 603-1 T.J.1015-1130
BIBLICAL STUDIES I: THE HEBREW BIBLE Idi (TA)
Instructor: Naftali Cohn

An introduction to the methods and results of biblical scholarship with regard to the history, culture, and religion of ancient Israel. Particular attention is given to the major religious affirmations and theological concepts of the Hebrew Bible that have become central in the subsequent development of Judaism.

17 **RELI 302/4 - A** (3 credits) H625 T.J. 1445-1600
BIBLICAL STUDIES II: CHRISTIAN ORIGINS
Instructor: Carly Daniel-Hughes

A critical survey of Christian origins, this course focuses on New Testament literature and considers historical setting, history of text, religious and cultural significance. Attention is paid to extra-canonical literature and other relevant sources.

18 **RELI 310/4 - A** (3 credits) H521 M.W. 1445-1600
SELF AND OTHER: EXPLORING VALUE CHOICES IN PERSONAL &

INTERPERSONAL RELATIONS
Instructor: Marc L.

This course considers ethical issues arising in the context of personal and interpersonal relations, families and friendships, and health and medical care. These issues are discussed in relation to traditional and contemporary moral perspectives, both religious and non-religious. Topics covered may vary from year to year, but may include discussions of conscience and career, privacy, sexual relations, harassment, substance abuse, abortion, euthanasia, and gay and lesbian relations. **Note**: Students who have received credit for RELI 331 or RELZ 310 may not take this course for credit.

19 **RELI 312/2 – A** (3 credits) H - 509 T.J. 1145-1300
JUSTICE AND SOCIAL CONFLICT IN A GLOBALIZED WORLD Paul G. (TA)
Instructor: Marc L.

This course considers ethical issues arising in the context of social, legal, and political relations. These issues are discussed in relation to both traditional and contemporary moral perspectives, both religious and non-religious. Topics covered typically include discussions of social and economic inequality, welfare, poverty, just punishment, business ethics, public ethics, economic development, and sustainable development. **Note:** Students who have received credit for RELI 332 or RELZ 312 may not take this course for credit.

20 **RELI 313/4 – AA** (3 credits) ~~H 537~~ J. 1830-2030
ZOROASTRIANISM H - 633-1
(xlisted with RELI 629D/4 A)
Instructor: Richard Foltz

Zoroastrianism, though counting no more than a few hundred thousand practitioners today, is one of the most significant traditions in the history of religions, providing a worldview and ethical framework later adopted by Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. This course covers the three-thousand year history of Zoroastrianism including controversies surrounding its origins, its contributions to other religions, its eventual decline and the Zoroastrian diaspora of contemporary times. Readings from the Avesta and other texts are in English translation.

21 **RELI 317/2 - A** (3 credits) IS M.W. 1445-1600
SUFISM FG B070
Instructor: Umberto Cicchetti

The course explores the emergence and development of Islamic mysticism beginning with pious individuals in the eighth century and coalescing into institutional forms by the tenth. Attention is given to the teachings of key mystical figures, the Sufi orders, and the social role of Sufism. Sufi poetry, music, and other forms of devotion and practice are studied in the contexts of diverse Muslim societies over the past thousand years up to the present. **Note:** Students who have received credit for this topic under a *RELI 379* number may not take this course for credit.

22 **RELI 318/4 – AA** IS ~~LS 319~~ T. 1800-2015
SHIITE ISLAM H 629 Waheeda (TA)
Instructor: Lynda Clarke

This course explores the history and ideas of Shiism, from the inception of the movement to the present. The various sects are introduced and treated, including the Twelvers, Ismailis, Zaydis, Druze, and Alawites. Basic Shiite doctrines such as crypto-religion (*taqiyah*), esoterism, messianism, quietism, and syncretism are considered in comparison with other religions. Study of the modern period treats subjects such as theocracy, political activism, and martyrdom. The course examines the centres of Shiite population: Southern Asia, Iran, Iraq and the Gulf, Lebanon, and North America.

23 **RELI 319/4 – A** IS H439 M.W. 1145-1300
MODERN ISLAM
Instructor: Bilal

This course surveys some of the main questions raised by modernity for Muslims and the various types of responses to it that Muslims have sought to formulate and put into practice, particularly in terms of how men and women are to relate to each other and to non-Muslims.

24 **RELI 320/2 –A** (3 credits) H 523 M.W. 1315-1430
CATACOMBS, CRUSADES, CONVENTS Julia C-S. (TA
Instructor: Carly Daniel-Hughes

This first course of the sequence on Christianity, historically considered, examines the life and thought of Christians as a minority in the Graeco-Roman world and their transition to a position of power. The course studies the rise of monasticism after the collapse of the Roman Empire, the construction of medieval Christianity and its flowering with the founding of the Friars amid the great theological syntheses of the thirteenth century. Saint Augustine, Saint Francis and Aquinas are the the key figures studied.
Note: Students who have received credit for RELI 303 may not take this course for credit.

25 **RELI 322/4- A** (3 credits) CL 245 T.J. 1015-1130
FROM TOLERATION TO POLITICAL AND SOCIAL ACTIVISM
Instructor: Michel Despland

The course will study two distinct but related movements. First the modern State undertakes to state and enforce the conditions of religious peace by taking a turn toward religious freedom and the encouragement of tolerance. This leads to a trend in modernity which is hostile to religion, or at least, seeks to confine it to the private realm. Second the churches adapt and can be said to modernise. They become more sensitive to their educational task and their social role. Along this road, some become critical of the prevailing conditions of modernity and join the fight for greater social justice. **Note:** Students who have received credit for RELI 306 may not take this course for credit.

26 **RELI 324/4- A** (3 credits) H459 M.W. 1445-1600
ON THE MARGINS OF CHRISTIANITY
Heresy, Dissidence and the End of the World
Instructor: Josee

This course investigates marginal forms of Christianity which have found themselves ignored, excluded, or suppressed by more mainstream Christian groups and institutions. The course explores aspects of the history of heretical movements, mysticism, and apocalypticism. It looks at the world-views and practices associated with such marginal forms of Christianity, placing religious traditions and movements within their broader social, cultural, and political contexts. **Note:** Students who have received credit for RELI 308 may not take this course for credit.

27 **RELI 325/4 – A** (3 credits) ~~CL 243~~ M.W. 1145-1300
PROPHETS, REBELS AND SAINTS: MOSES H 401
Instructor: Naftali Cohn

Who was Moses and what made him a leader? These two questions will animate our exploration of the ways in which this quintessential Jewish religious leader is portrayed in literature, art, and cinema from the Bible to contemporary times. The varying portraits of Moses will illustrate the different approaches that have been taken through the ages to the character of Moses, the nature of leadership, the relationship with the divine, and the highest human values. In addition, our study of the evolving picture of Moses will help us uncover the unique factors that may have shaped his (re-) presentation in each setting.

28 **RELI 328/4 – A** (3 credits) CL 243 M.W 1315-1430
MODERN JUDAISM
Instructor: ~~Sonia~~ Maria H 459

This course surveys the major historical events, sociological and political forces, and intellectual currents which shaped Judaism in the modern period as well as the ways that Jewish communities responded to these forces. Among the topics explored are Emancipation, forms of religious adjustment, anti-semitism, the experience of Jewish communities in Russia and North America, the Holocaust, and Zionism and the state of Israel.

29 **RELI 329/4 – A** (3 credits) H 603 T.J. 1445-1600
ISRAEL: RELIGION AND STATE
Instructor: Michael Oppenheim

This class will explore the many dimensions of what has been described as the issue of religion and state in Israel, that is, the character of the state of Israel as a Jewish state. It will begin with the history of the Zionist movement and the ideologies that dominated it. The second section of the class will look at some of the important Israeli communities and groups that address the Jewish nature of the state. The third section will examine current positions, and the fourth, the overall Jewish practice of Israelis. Our goal is to understand the complex factors and interests that lie behind the present-day attempt by Israelis to maintain a modern state that they can recognize as authentically Jewish.

30 **RELI 331/4 – A** (3 credits) xlist ENGL 398X M.W. 1315-1430
LITERATURE AND THE HOLOCAUST CL 215 Andrew M. (TA)
Instructor: Norman Ravvin

Religious, historical, literary, and political contexts have been applied to come to terms with the events of the Holocaust. All of these are relevant as student read important and

provocative novels dealing with such issues as ethics, the relationship between art and history, the use of humour and popular cultural forms, as well as the way that storytelling helps direct our understanding of events that are often said to be incomprehensible. The wider impact of fiction dealing with the Holocaust on the popular media, including film, CD ROMS, video, and news reporting is also considered.
Note: Students who have received credit for this topic under a RELI 398 number may not take this course for credit.

31 **RELI 334/2 – A** (3 credits) BE 239-2 T.J. 1145-1300
INTRODUCTION TO CANADIAN JEWISH STUDIES
Instructor: Norman Ravvin

Canadian Jewish Studies is often in the shadow of work done in Jewish Studies more broadly, and American and Israeli contexts provide competition in the effort to examine the specific character of Jewish culture in Canada. In this course we will consider the history of Jewish life in Canada, as well as the relationship between the Canadian mainstream and Jewish religious, cultural and private experience. We will make use of historical texts, fiction, films and music while also considering the changing impact of city life and Canada's multicultural ethic. Students interested in cultural studies, literary studies, history, sociology and ethnic studies will find that their disciplinary approach is central to our discussions.

32 **RELI 340/2 – AA** (3 credits) CL 235 J. 1800-2015
VEDA AND UPANISHADS
Instructor: T.S. Rukmani

This introduction to the religious concepts, practices, and wisdom of ancient India is based on the literature of the Vedic period, including Upanishads. The course examines the contribution of various aspects of the Vedic tradition to the development of Hinduism, and explores the interaction among religions in the ancient period. **Note:** Students who have received credit for RELI 320 may not take this course for credit.

33 **RELI 341/4 – A** (3 credits) H623 T.J. 1145-1300
HINDU SADHANA: FROM YAJNA TO YOGA
Instructor: Shaman Hatley

This course explores Hindu religious practice in relation to conceptions of the individual and the divine. We begin with the ancient Vedic tradition of sacrifice (*yajna*), proceeding to the study of meditation, asceticism, and analytical reflection in classical Hinduism. Subsequent units concern life cycle rites, temple ritual, devotional chanting, tantric yoga, and domestic observances.

34 **RELI 350/4 – A** (3 credits) H427 T.J. 1015-1130
THERAVADA BUDDHISM
Instructor: Marc des Jardins

This course examines the early history, doctrine, institutions, and practices of Buddhism in India, and follows the development of Theravada Buddhism in the countries of Southeast Asia up to the present day. **Note:** Students who have received credit for RELI 314 may not take this course for credit.

35 **RELI 354/2 – A** (3 credits) H 441 T.J.1445-1600
RELIGION AND FILM
Instructor: Barbara G.

This course examines films that deal with religious themes – explicitly or implicitly – and provides an opportunity to analyse the language of film as a form of narrative through which cultural and religious ideas are transmitted. **Note:** Students who have received credit for this topic under an RELI 398 number may not take this course for credit.

36 **RELI 367/2 – A** (3 credits) H 625 T.J.1015-1130
RITUAL, CEREMONY AND CELEBRATION
Instructor: Donald Boisvert

Ritual is one of the essential components of religious practice. This course explores the place and function of ritual in a variety of religious traditions, both historical and contemporary. It looks at theoretical understandings of religious ritual, and examines such rituals as sacrifice, rites of passage, worship and ascetic and meditative practices in their theological, social, and cultural contexts.

37 **RELI 370C/4 – A** (3 credits) CL 217 T.J.1145-1300
TOPICS IN COMPARATIVE RELIGION: PILGRIMAGE
Instructor: Donald Boisvert

Pilgrimages have long been a significant feature of the world's major religious traditions. At once a physical journey and an internal spiritual voyage, the pilgrimage plays upon notions of sacred space and time. It also contains rich elements of ritual and expectations of individual religious transformation. This course will explore pilgrimage from the perspective of different religious traditions, sociologically and historically. A visit to a pilgrimage site will be organized. **Note:** Students who have received credit for this topic under an RELI 398 number may not take this course for credit.

38 **RELI 374/4 – A** (3 credits) BE 239-2 M.W.1015-1130
TOPICS IN RELIGION AND SCIENCE
Instructor: Ira Robinson

This course will examine "religion" and "science" in terms of their claims to adequately describe and explain reality. It will consider their relationship within several religio-cultural contexts, including Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism and Buddhism, as well as in comparative perspective.

RELI 375/2 and /4 – Onl EC (3 credits)
RELIGION IN CANADA
Instructor: Donald Boisvert

This course examines the history, contributions and sociological profile of different religious traditions within Canadian society. In particular, the influence of these traditions on Canadian politics, law and culture is considered, as well as the challenges a number of them faced in coming to Canada. Attention is also paid to the interaction of different religious

groups within the broader Canadian context. **Note**: Students who have received credit for RELI 363 may not take this course for credit.

RELI 376/2 – A (3 credits) T.J. 1315-1430
PSYCHOLOGY OF RELIGION
Instructor: Michael Oppenheim

The discipline of Psychology of Religion can usually be described in terms of two streams. The first is experimental and empirical and the second "humanistic", philosophical and theoretical. This class will focus on the second stream. It will seek insights from the convergence of the disciplines of psychology and religious studies in addressing such questions as: What does it mean to be religious? What is the role of religion in individual development? What is the place of relationships to others in religious life? How is authenticity characterized? How are gender differences treated in the psychology of religion? We will explore some of the classical psychological theories of religion, those developed by James, Freud, Erikson, and Jung, as well as more recent developments by post-modern and feminist theorists.

RELI 378/2 - A (3 credits) M.W. 1015-1130
DEATH AND DYING
Instructor:

This course provides a comparative perspective on the variety of conceptions and practices related to death and dying that are found in different world religions. In addition, the course considers how people in contemporary North American society utilise traditional religious concepts and rituals, scientific understandings and medical procedures, or innovative combinations of ideas and practices to cope with, and make sense of, the problem of death. Lectures, discussions and some small group work will constitute the major teaching methods. Guest lecturers will be invited. Students should complete the course with some general understanding of, and critical appreciation for, the ways in which different religious traditions explain death and its attendant issues, and how these might assist individuals in coping with their own death or that of others.

RELI 380/2 – A (3 credits) M.W. 1315-1430
RELIGION AND SEXUALITY
Instructor: Donald Boisvert

This course examines, from comparative and historical perspectives, the interplay of religion and human sexuality. It will look at: 1) the development of attitudes towards sexuality within diverse religious traditions, and 2) religious and cultural manifestations of sexuality. Topics may include, among others, sexual images of the sacred; human reproduction; gender and identity; religion, the body and sexual desire; women; marriage; virginity and celibacy; sexual variance; homosexuality; sexuality and fetishism. Other topics may be selected according to the interests of the class. Lectures, discussions and some small group work will constitute the major teaching methods. Guest lecturers will be invited.

RELI 381/4 – A (3 credits) T.J. 1145-1300
(xlisted RELI 699A)
WOMEN AND RELIGION: JUDAISM
Instructor: Norma Joseph

This course explores the status and religious roles of women within the Judaic tradition. Its focus is on the practice of the religion, especially the ritual and legal spheres. The relationship between common practice, popular attitudes, and formal legal principles is examined in order to inquire into issues of gender and religion.

10:15–11:30

RELI 382/2 – A (3 credits) M.W. ~~1615-1730~~
WOMEN AND RELIGION: CHRISTIANITY H439
Instructor: Carly Daniel-Hughes

The focus of the course is the role of women and the conflicting patterns of gender construction in the history of Christianity. Through a critical use of primary and secondary sources, both visual and textual, the course explores the sources of women's power and subordination in order to illuminate the relationship between gender and the Christian tradition.

RELI 384/4 – A (3 credits) T.J. 1315-1430
WOMEN AND RELIGION: HINDUISM H427
Instructor:

This course examines the roles of women in Hindu religious life. The course focuses particularly on the impact of historical change; on the activities and experience of women in India, in the course of the last three thousand years; and on the relation between Hindu conceptions of "the feminine" and women's situation.

RELI 386/2 - AA (3 credits) FG C070 T.1800-2015
WITCHCRAFT, MAGIC AND RELIGION
Instructor: Mana Rafael (TA)

This course approaches the study of magic, witchcraft, and religion from a variety of perspectives. Taking examples from indigenous cultures, the ancient world, medieval Europe, the early modern period and contemporary movements, the practices and rituals that have been labeled magic or witchcraft are examined, along with the responses to them. The course explores how magicians and witches view themselves, how different cultures relate to them, and how magic, witchcraft, and religion merge and diverge. **Note**: Students who have received credit for this topic under an RELI 398 number may not take this course for credit.

LS 830

RELI 387/2 - A (3 credits) T.1315-1600
GODDESSES AND RELIGIOUS IMAGES OF WOMEN
Instructor: Norma Joseph/Leslie Orr Jennifer M. (TA)

This comparative survey of female divinity and feminine imagery studies various religious traditions. Among the issues to be explored are the imaging of goddesses as mothers; the conception of forces like fertility, energy, materiality, and knowledge as feminine; the correspondences and relations between goddesses and women; and the contemporary feminist recovery of the Goddess.

RELI 393/4 - AA (3 credits) Environmental Values. T.1800-2015
LS ~~323~~. R103

ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES AND RELIGIOUS TRADTIONS
Instructor: Richard Foltz

The environmental crisis is arguably the first truly global crisis that humanity has faced. Increasingly, scholars and others are coming to see it not as a crisis of technology but rather as one of values. Since religions are the primary source of values in any human society, we may look to the worlds various religious systems to better understand how they place humans within the broader context of nature, how they teach us to value it, and what our responsibilities are towards the non-human world. **Note:** Students who have received credit for this topic under an RELI 398 number may not take this course for credit.

48 **RELI 395/4 –A** (3 credits) T.J. 1315-1430
STUDIES IN JEWISH THOUGHT AND PHILOSOPHY Cancelled
Instructor:

By means of the analysis of particular issues, thinkers, and texts, this course explores the character of Jewish philosophy. Issues in Jewish philosophy that may be examined include the relationship between faith and reason, the understanding of God, Judaism and the inter-human, the powers and limits of philosophical understanding.

49 **RELI 396/2 –A** (3 credits) J. 1315-1600
FOOD AND RELIGION FG B050
Instructor: Norma Joseph/Leslie Orr

What we eat and how we eat make us what we are. In this course, the examination of food cultures and food rituals will allow us to explore religious meanings and the making of religious identities. The preparing and sharing of food defines religious community and expresses religious values. Feasts and fasts, food offerings and food prohibitions, hospitality and sacrifice present us with a vast array of opportunities to gain insight into human creativity and religious sensibility. In looking at food in several world religions, this course will focus particularly on how food can serve as a medium of transmission and transaction, and on the roles that women and men, gods and ancestors, and other beings and forces have in this network. **Note:** Students who have received credit for this topic under an RELI 398 number may not take this course for credit.

H 437

50 **RELI 398G/2 –AA** (3 credits) M. 1800-2015
VARIETIES OF EVANGELICALISM & FUNDAMENTALISM IN N.A.
(Selected Topics in Religion)
Instructor: Brandon

This course will examine the historical, social, and theological roots of evangelicalism in North America beginning with the "Great Awakening" in the nineteenth century and including the birth of Pentecostalism and Fundamentalism in the early twentieth century. These historical roots will be considered in order to trace the explosive growth and increased visibility of evangelicals in North American public life beginning in the 1970s and 1980s and continuing into the present.

S1 **RELI 398H/2 – A** (3 credits) T.J.1145-1300
RELIGION AND MUSIC
(Selected Topics in Religion) H427
Instructor: Shaman Hatley

Religion has served as an inspiration and performance context for music across the world, and musical expression is often central to religious practice. In this course, we will explore various traditions of sacred music in their religious and cultural contexts. Topics range from Gregorian chant to Quranic recitation, from Hindu, Muslim, and Sikh devotional song in South Asia to esoteric Tibetan chant, and from J.S. Bach to Gospel singing in African-American churches.

S2 **RELI 398I/4 – A** (3 credits) M.W. 1015-1130
BUDDHISM IN THE WEST Cancelled
(Selected Topics in Religion)
Instructor:

This course explores the history of the Euro-American encounter with Buddhism – by travellers, scholars, and spiritual seekers – and the varieties of Buddhism found today in the West, among both Asian and Western Buddhists.

S3 **RELI 398J/2 – A** (3 credits) T. 1315-1600
CHINESE BUDDHISM FA202 LS323
(Selected Topics in Religion)
Instructor: Marc des Jardins

This course examines the historical development of Buddhism in China from the 2nd century to the present. It will pay particular attention to the socio-cultural and political climates reigning during the various phases of its development, assimilation and reformulation. It will examine the most important and influential Chinese Buddhist schools, their philosophical positions, corpus of teaching, practices and their contributions to society and culture. It will also analyse the dynamics between politics and religion and the vagaries of its successes and failures.

S4 **RELI 398N/4 – A** (3 credits) GM 212. T.J. 1145-1300
ISLAMIC ART
(Selected Topics in Religion)
Instructor: Ayesha Irani

This course traces the historical development of Islamic art and architecture from its formative period in the seventh and eighth centuries C.E. to the modern era. After studying the basic components of Islamic visual culture, topics examined include the construction of religious space; the city as epicentre of culture and empire; secular building types; the garden; the use of geometry and ornament; the decorative object and its courtly consumption; the primacy of the written word; popular art; and painting, photography, and the representation of the human form. In approaching this rich legacy, the course draws

widely on materials from across the Islamic world.

55 **RELI 398X/4 – AA** (3 credits) W. 1800-2015
RELIGION AND VIOLENCE H 623
(Selected Topics in Religion)
Instructor: Marc L.

It is often said that we live in a violent world but that religion represents the search for peace, love, and understanding. In many instances this is indeed the case and we will be concerned to explore its inspiration. Yet considered historically, it is not unusual for religion to be a central factor in the motivation and expression of violence. What, then, is the nature and character of the relationship between religion and violence? The purpose of this course is to investigate this question on a number of different levels. It will examine the meaning of violence in its multiple forms (as physical, psychological, moral, ideological, etc.) at both the individual and social levels of existence. Within that framework, the course will compare and contrast various religious traditions in the course of their historical development as they relate to the theme and reality of violence. By examining their sacred writings, theologies, rituals and communal actions, this course will chart the diverse contributions of religious life and thought to both the perpetuation and resistance to human violence.

56 **RELI 409/2– AA** (3 credits) M. 1800-2015
METHODOLOGY AND THE STUDY OF RELIGION
Instructor: Marc L.
Prerequisite: Permission of the department. CC 227

This class will introduce students to some of the major perspectives in the contemporary study of Religion. The lectures will present a historical and thematic treatment of the ways Religion has been studied from its beginning as a discipline to the present time. The texts will explore the contemporary terrain in terms of insights emerging from anthropological studies, hermeneutical studies, and debates in cultural studies. Current scholars of Religion will also be invited to share their experiences and research.

57 **RELI 498F/4 - AA** (3 credits) M. 1600-1815
(cross-listed with RELI 636A/4 AA) ENGL 498A
RELIGION AND LITERATURE
(Advanced Topics in Religion)
Instructor: Norman Ravvin
Prerequisite: Permission of the department.

What are the strengths of literary works in understanding religious tradition? In what way can literary texts stand as revisions or re-interpretations of religious texts and belief? This course will apply these questions with regard to a number of religious traditions. Readings will include canonical religious, literary and critical texts. We will consider the way that certain provocative books have created social and political unrest, as well as examining the way that certain thinkers help us understand literary undertakings as expressions of religious

modes of thought and creativity. *This is a seminar-format course in which both upper-level undergraduate and graduate students will be participating.*

RELI 498K/2 – AA (3 credits) J.1830-2030
(cross-listed with RELI 697J/2 AA)
HASIDISM
(Advanced Topics in Religion)
Instructor: Ira Robinson
Prerequisite: Permission of the Department

This course will examine the Judaic religious movement known as Hasidism from its eighteenth century origins to the present. The intellectual history of the movement will be detailed in relation to the development of the Judaic mystical tradition of kabbala. As well, the social dynamics of the movement, both in its original Eastern European environment as well as in contemporary North America and Israel will be analyzed. *This course is a seminar format one, in which both upper level undergraduate and graduate students of religion and philosophy will be participating.*

RELI 498N/2– A (3 credits) J. 1600-1815
(cross-listed with RELI 670I/2 A)
FOOD, SEX, AND DEATH IN JUDAISM
(Advanced Topics in Religion)
Instructor: Naftali Cohn
Prerequisite: Permission of the department.

The common thread that unites food, sex, and death in Judaism is the view that these charged activities (and associated objects), so thoroughly bound up with life itself, have a transcendent dimension through which humans can express and create a relationship with the divine. In this course we will examine practices and attitudes associated with all three in the Jewish tradition and how these practices and attitudes were shaped by the unique cultural contexts in which they were formed. *This course is a seminar format one, in which both upper level undergraduate and graduate students of religion and philosophy will be participating.*

RELI 498Y/4 – AA (3 credits) T.1600-1815
(cross-listed with RELI 665/4 AA)
MIDRASH
(Advanced Topics in Religion)
Instructor: Naftali Cohn
Prerequisite: Permission of the Department

In their unique approach to interpreting the Bible in Midrash, the rabbis sought the true meaning of scripture, they incorporated the fantastical, they found deep insight into life, they invented (and recycled) legend, they embraced multiple and contradictory interpretations, and they made the Bible relevant in their own times. In this course we will look at the roots of Midrash in biblical interpretation of the late biblical period and the Hellenistic era, trace

its development throughout the early rabbinic period, and situate the earliest Midrash in the cultural contexts from which it emerged.

This is a seminar-format course in which both upper-level undergraduate and graduate students will be participating.

61 498B/4A Great Perfection - Tibetan Bsm
(cross 616R)
FA 202. T, 16:00 - 18:00 Marc.

Department of Religion - Timetable Fall 2007

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
10:15-11:30	214 378	226 301 367	214 378	226 301 367
11:45-13:00	210	224 312 334 398H	210	224 312 334 398H
13:15-14:30	320 380	220 376 387 (until 1600) 398J	320 380	220 376 223 (until 1600) 396 (until 1600)
14:45-16:00	317	354	317	354
16:15-17:30	382	225	382	225 498N (1600-1815) 498K (1830-2030)
18:00-20:15	398G 409	386		340

Department of Religion - Timetable Winter 2008

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
10:15-11:30	374 398k	322 350	374 398l	322 350
11:45-13:00	319 325	209 398n 341 381 370C	319 325	209 398n 341 381 370C
13:15-14:30	328 331	384 395	328 331	384 395
14:45-16:00	310 324	215 302 329	310 324	215 302 329
16:15-17:30	498f (1600-1815)	498y (1600-1815)		
18:00-20:15	300	318 393	398x	313 (18:30-20:30)